

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

2018 Housing Instability and Homelessness Report Series

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On Wednesday, May 23, Mecklenburg County released the “[Charlotte Mecklenburg Evictions Part 3: One-month Snapshot of Eviction Court Records](#)” report. The report, funded by Mecklenburg County Community Support Services (CSS) and authored by the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute, was initiated by the Housing Advisory Board of Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

This report analyzes eviction cases in small claims court trials that occurred in July 2016 – a period of time in which a significant number of evictions occurred – thus offering an opportunity for detailed analysis. This report marks the first time local eviction information from court records has been analyzed and reported. This report builds on two previous reports from [September 2017](#) and [March 2018](#), focusing on how and why tenants are evicted and the cost of evictions for landlords and tenants.

Key takeaways from the report:

- In July, 356 households were evicted from their homes. 61 percent of the cases filed received a judgment to evict.
- Most attempts to evict a tenant were due to failure to pay rent. The median amount owed was \$850.
- The cost of evictions to families, neighborhoods and the community extends beyond what occurs within the court system. Evictions impact the well-being of families and children, create residential instability and perpetuate patterns that lead to disparity rather than upward mobility.

May 23 Metropolitan Transit Commission Meeting Summary

Staff resource: John Lewis, Transit Director, 704-336-3855, john.lewis@charlottenc.gov

The Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) received several updates at their May 23 meeting:

Charlotte Gateway Station (CGS) Update

When completed, CGS will be a multimodal transportation center in Uptown Charlotte. Phase one of the project includes five new bridges, two 2,000-foot station tracks, passenger boarding platform, canopy foundations and signal system to tie station tracks into Norfolk Southern’s tracks. Construction will begin in July 2018.

Regional Transit Summit Update

Two hundred people attended the Regional Transit Summit on May 18, 2018, which took place at UNC Charlotte. Participants from 12 counties across two states discussed demographic trends and regional transit collaboration. Feedback from the summit will be used to inform future regional transit efforts.

CATS CEO Report

Transit Director John Lewis provided several updates:

a. Summer Schedule

MTC members will discuss the summer schedule again at the June meeting.

b. Special Transportation Service (STS)

STS provides service to residents who require additional support and transportation options. CATS is reexamining current policy and STS service impacts that occurred as a result of the Blue Line Extension.

c. Ridership Update

Rail ridership has grown slowly over the past several years, while bus ridership has fallen. Recommendations from the “Envision My Ride” study will be implemented in October, with the goal of bolstering ridership for both bus and rail. Increasing route frequency will be an increased area of focus for CATS.

The next MTC meeting will take place on June 27, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

CityLYNX Gold Line Construction Update – Monday, June 4, through Friday, June 8

Staff resource: John Lewis, Transit Director, 704-336-3855, john.lewis@charlottenc.gov

Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) will provide ongoing updates (as needed) to council on the status of the Gold Line construction project. Below is the most current summary of work taking place.

New project updates

- The I-77 Southbound on-ramp connector road (between Fifth Street and West Trade Street) will be closed from Friday, June 1 at 11 p.m. through Monday, June 4 at 5 a.m.

2018 State Legislative Report #2

Staff resource: Dana Fenton, City Manager’s Office, 704-336-2009, dfenton@charlottenc.gov

Attached is the week two report for the 2018 short session of the North Carolina General Assembly. The General Assembly is taking its votes on the state budget bill this week, which should be sent to the governor’s office in the next few days. Members should be transitioning next week to committee work and floor votes on other matters.

[View the Week Two Legislative Report here.](#)